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The Distressed Estate of the City of DVBLIN IN IRELAND.

at this present.

VVhich is besieged by many thousands of the Rebels, who commit most Barbarous and bloody outrages and Murders against the Protestants inhabiting about the City.

VVith the Copie of a wicked and bloody Letter which was sent from one of the chiefe of the Rebels in *Ireland*, to an *English* Merchant of *London*, and a Papist.

Full of bitternesse and cruelty.

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39

LONDON, Printed for *John Thomas*, 1641.

Date: Dec 17

State of the City of

DUBLIN

IRELAND

Which is besieged by many thousands of

the Rebels, who commit such Barbarous and Bloody

Cruelties as are not to be Parallel'd

in any Age or Nation.

07-927

With the Copie of a Wicked and Bloody

Letter which was Sent from one of the Chiefe

of the Rebels to an English Merchant

of Dublin and a Popish

Full of Horrible and Cruelty.

London, Printed for the Assigns 1641.

A True Relation of the Estate of *Ireland.*

DIvers strange Reports and Rumours have beene spread and diffus'd about this Kingdome, few of which Reports have beene true, but false suggestions fomented by idle fellowes, who for some small fragments of Silver thinke it no crime to abuse the Eares of the world with strange and unheard of untruth, therefore I have thought good to giue to the world a true and reall Satisfaction of the estate of the Kingdome of *Ireland*, which I confesse is very deplorable, and deserves our pitty, for great is their calamities, their enemies encreasing daily, as touching the City of *Dublin*, whereas it was reported that it was taken, it was vntrue, for since the first Conspiracy against the Lord chiefe Justices, and the surprisall of the Castle they never attempted any thing against the City, it being but a vaine attempt by reason that the Castle can command the City in despight of their resistance, and for all the old Irish that went into *Dublin*, as soone as the Plot was discovered, they left the City and joyn'd with *Mackguire*, for *Tyrone* arrived not till above 5. weekes after the Conspiracy was discovered, and they had gathered to a head, and plundered many places; and done divers outrages and murthers

murthers being animated on by *Macqueres* who is of a bloody disposition, but after *Tyrones* arrivall being made Generall he restrained them from such bloody enterprizes, making Policy his chiefe engine to vther mischiefe, and where Policy prevailes not, force makes a passage, for great men he will intreate with courtesie, but if that be not of force to draw them to his party, then doth he seaze of their estates, and learne them to seeke a grave of rest rather then a life so despicable, many places have they surprized, many murthers have they committed, great are the outrages that are daily done by them, many slight skirmishes there hath been between the Irish parties and the Protestants, Captain *Digby* on the 4. day of *December* happened to meet with Captaine *Oneale*, marching towards a little Village in the County of *Monno*, betwixt whom was a bloody salutation; but *Oneales* forces being greater then *Digbies*; the Protestants retreated with the losse of some men, many other times there hath been skirmishes too tedious at this time to be related, great are the feares of the Protestants which causes many to leave the Kingdome, and many have been shipwracht by reason of the late tempestuous stormes, divers women and children drown'd at Sea in the same ship that the Gentleman came in that made this Relation, who was miraculously preserved, by Gods omnipotence and all commanding power, thus leaving all true Protestants to pray for their deliverance, and with their Prayer good Lord deliver them and preserve us, and though our troubles be great yet the Lord will deliver us out of all, *Save us good Lord we beseech thee.*

The true Copy of a wicked and bloody Letter which was ſent from *Ireland* to an *Engliſh* Merchant of *London*, *Decem.* 19. 1641

Worthy Sir,

I Can do no leſſe but let you vnderſtand the affaires that we have now vndertaken, by reaſon that wee were ſuppreſſed in the exerciſe of our Religion, which we alwaies have profeſſed, and there is no alteration of it to be had by force, but by the will of God, if it doth pleaſe the Almighty God to alter our hearts, then no doubt but we ſhall be changed.

As yet we doe ſtand to maintaine the Roman Catholique Church to be our true Church, when we doe now fight vnder; Therefore we doe not any thing but what our conſciences is bound to doe.

I pray you, doe but conſider how ſtiffely the Proteſtants did ſtand to maintaine their Religion in Q. *Maries* dayes, when ſhe proſecuted them to their lives, and did put ſo many to death both by fire and other torments, yet they would not alter their Religion that formerly they profeſſed, becauſe it was grounded in them by faith in Chriſt, as they did beleeve, therefore no force could prevaile with them, but they had rather ſuffer all the afflictions that poſſibly could be inuented againſt them, then to alter their Religion the which they had beene formerly grounded in.

Worthy Sr. Consider our Estates, for the same is our Case at this time, you cannot but know, how that we are deprived of all our Liberty, and some of our Religion, which are in *England* is so Persecuted, even to the Banishment of their Estates, and others of their lives, the which doth moue us to consider of their Sufferings, and to make us to prevent the same occasion to our selues in time, and whilst that we have opportunity for feare their distressed cases should be ours, the which doth moue and stirre us up to maintain and defend that which we have begun, and to goe on freely to Redeeme our selves from that Bondage.

For I dare be bold to say, if we could but enjoy the same Liberty of conscience as formerly we have done that neither I nor any other would have taken up Armes against the King, for it hath beene our desire to Dye rich in peace, and to have hazarded our Lives and Estates to have done him service, if his Majesty had Commanded vs thereunto, But seeing it otherwise we must maintaine that which is already on foot for better had we dye in the field, then to endure the miseries that would have happened to us, for professing that Religion, which our Predecessors from antiquity hath lived, and dyed in the defence thereof.

But as we are now in the field for the freedome of our conscience, so will we undauntedly proceed on for the perfecting of that good worke we have begun, neither are we possessed with the terrour or feare of our enemies the Heretickes, who threaten our distruction, for out of a little strength at first, have we increased to many Thousands, and doe daily still increase, both

of

of our owne Country men, and divers others of our Brethren in *England*, *France*, *Spaine*, and the Low Countreyes, which continually come to assist us, there is a great sight of English, and I doe beleive most of them are Protestants, which doth side with us, and that doth encourage us the more, for we doe march on boldly without feare as a man may say, for there is but a few which doth oppose us, and we are to march into *Dublin*, as wee suppose on the 21. of this Instant Moneth, for the major part of the best of them which lives in the City will assist us therein, and they have sent to us, to bid us not be dismaied, but to come on freely and with coragious Spirits, for the Towne shall be delivered vp to us, as soone as we come to it, and the City Gates should be Opened at our approach vnto the Walles, for there is but few to oppose & withstand us, onely some certaine number of English would put us hard to it at the first entrance, but they made no doubt but they should subdue them, and then the Towne should be theirs, *Vale*,

Your freind *P. T.*

From our Campe neere *Dublin* Decemb. 17. 1641.

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FINIS.